

## **Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility**

# **Gold Mills Incorporated**

**1 Penn Dye Street  
Pine Grove, PA 17963  
Congressional District 6  
EPA ID #: PAD002377703  
Last Updated 6/21/05**

## **Current Progress at the Site**

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Gold Mills continues to pump groundwater and treat it using an activated carbon system on the site. The groundwater samples showed tetrachloroethene (a/k/a perchloroethene or PCE) concentrations ranging from 160 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/l}$ ) to less than 5  $\mu\text{g/l}$  (in November of 2004) down from 1100  $\mu\text{g/l}$  (in 1992). The PCE drinking water standard is 5  $\mu\text{g/l}$ .

The results of soils and groundwater investigation from the August, 2001 sampling event indicated that the Former Dry Cleaning Area inside the production building is a source for the groundwater contamination with PCE. Contaminated soils were cleaned and disposed off the facility site. According to the July 17, 2001 RCRA Facility Soils Investigation Report the remains of soil contamination are existed in the Area of Former Dry Cleaning operations. A Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) System was chosen as a final Corrective Measure for the Dry Cleaning Area. A full-scale SVE system started on December 19, 2003. According to July 2004 report the SVE system will be in operation an roughly through the end of June 2005.

The RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) for the facility is finalized. A Corrective Measure Study (CMS) and a final remedy for the site are in development.

## **Site Description**

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Since 1960, Gold Mills Incorporated has operated a synthetic fabric dyeing and finishing facility located at the intersection of Penn Dye Street and Tulpehocken Street in Pine Grove Borough, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. The site covers 33 acres on the banks of Swatara Creek. Guilford Mills, of Greensboro, North Carolina, bought the facility in 1986, making it a wholly owned subsidiary. Tanneries operated at the site prior to 1960.

The company moved production from Pine Grove, PA to Mexico in 2001. According to the facility letter to EPA dated October 3, 2001 "the Gold Mills Facility [in Pine Grove, PA] will continue to produce fabrics for the industrial fabrics market."

In July of 1988 a stained soil was discovered at the site by the facility personnel. The company subsequently conducted soil and groundwater studies to determine the nature and extent of the contamination. That investigation revealed that 1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA), trichloroethene (TCE), tetrachloroethene (a/k/a perchloroethene or PCE), lead (Pb), and cadmium (Cd) were in the groundwater and the soils at levels of concern.

The company took three interim steps at that time to prevent contaminated groundwater from moving off site. First, they excavated contaminated soil 63,000 tons in 1988 and an additional 900 tons in 1998. Second, the southern portion of the facility, including an area of the main

plant building, was capped with asphalt. Finally, the company began pumping and treating groundwater from three onsite production wells.

In October 1992, Gold Mills signed an Administrative Order on Consent with EPA Region III under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The agreement requires Gold Mills to perform additional investigations of soil and groundwater contamination and to continue to pump and treat contaminated groundwater.

## Site Responsibility

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RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region III with assistance from the PADEP.

## Contaminants

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The main contaminants at the Gold Mills, Pine Grove site are 1,1,1- trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA), trichloroethene (TCE), tetrachloroethene (a/k/a perchloroethene or PCE), lead (Pb), and cadmium (Cd). The most significant pathway for human exposure or ecological effects would be through off site migration of contaminated groundwater. However, the interim measures described above are preventing contaminants from leaving the site.

## Institutional Controls

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Institutional controls are not required at this time.

## Government Contact

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EPA Project Manager  
Ms. Victoria Ioff - 3WC22  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029  
Phone: (215) 814-3415  
Email: [ioff.vickie@epa.gov](mailto:ioff.vickie@epa.gov)

For more information about EPA's corrective action web page, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: [www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm](http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm)

## Facility Contact

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Mr. Paul R. Bruesch, P.E., Corporate Environmental Manager  
Guilford Mills, Inc.  
5644 Hornaday Road  
Greensboro, NC 27409  
Greensboro, NC 27407  
(336) 316-4902 office phone  
(336) 316-4997 office fax

